

17-035

Date: December 1, 2017

From: Luan B. Wine

To: Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

Attention: Mike Constantino or Courtney Avery

Re: Proposed Liberty Village in Rochelle, IL

**RECEIVED**

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Mr. Constantino or Ms. Avery,

I am a ninety-year old widow who has lived in Rochelle, IL for 62 years. I have two married daughters. The older one lives two and one-half hours Southwest of Rochelle and the younger one lives one and one-half hours to the East of Rochelle.

I am still relatively mobile and able to live in my own home, but I am sure the time will come when that will no longer be possible.

I was delighted! when I read about your plans to build Liberty Village in Rochelle. It is just the type of facility I want to spend my final years in—to have minimal assistance at first AND NOT have to move away when more care is needed.

Yes, there are similar facilities in surrounding areas, BUT one has to leave friends, church, activities one has been involved in; in essence start a new life at an age when it isn't easy, especially if one is not independent anymore.

San Gabriel is a nice facility (although the majority of the apartments are too small for my preference), but when it can no longer provide the care one requires, one has to move to somewhere out of town to receive the necessary care. This fact was pointed out at the Oct 15, 2017 public hearing held at the Spring Lake Marina in Rochelle. I know several of the people who spoke in favor of this type of facility due to their experiences of having to relocate their loved ones and the burdens the move created.

According to the news article in the October 15, 2017 issue of the Rochelle News-Leader, representatives from Oregon Living and Rehabilitation Center, Oregon, IL and Peterson Health Care with two facilities in Rochelle voiced their opposition to the proposed facility citing "already excess of available nursing home beds", "backlog of payments from the State of IL", "staff shortages", etc. I can speak personally regarding the quality of care at both Oregon and Rochelle Rehabilitation and Health Care Center as my husband was in both facilities. In 2007-2008 he was a patient at Rochelle for two and one-half months because of a badly broken ankle and confined to a wheelchair. At that time the care was good, the facility clean, and the staff was pleasant, knowledgeable and helpful. In 2014, he again had to be hospitalized and then transferred to the Rochelle facility. The accommodations were very inadequate as was the care, both for physical assistance and medically. After another hospital stay I refused to have him returned there and he was admitted to the Franklin Grove Living & Rehabilitation Center which was very GOOD. After another hospitalization the procedure he needed was not provided at Franklin Grove. He was sent to the Oregon facility where he received VERY INADEQUATE care and concern for his well-being. I brought him home as soon as I could as I was certain he would pass away there without my being present and when they would get around to telling me I do not know.

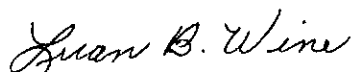
I certainly hope you put much 'weight' on the comments made by those who spoke in favor of constructing 'Liberty Village' in Rochelle, IL. Mic Brooks, after explaining his parents' situations, said, "I certainly hope your decisions are not simply made by numbers-----". "Quite honestly, the quality of the care is the most important thing. If there is [excess] capacity in the area, maybe it's because people choose to go someplace else".

"Dr. John Prabhaker, a retired surgeon in Rochelle for 30 years, urged the board members to not only think about numbers in terms of making their decision." He said, "You have to put faces to the numbers...you are hearing individuals' stories here". "Competition is good".

I was unable to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict, but I am grateful to have the opportunity to express my feelings regarding the possible construction of Liberty Village in Rochelle, IL. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luan B. Wine

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Luan B. Wine".

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